4

& Kent may not at all suit me.

Imie may glow so — but it adds only to the keenness & vividness with which I view the part — adds, how much! For when tragedies & most bitter dramas were in the course of acting I did not feel their meaning & their consequences as poignantly as I now do — I cannot write or speak of Shelley to any purpose according to my views without taking a seat from a

5

Sir

My dear Kent

I am very much puzzled to know how to answer your friend. Of course I wish in every way to write Shelley to a man of whom you have a good opinion — & who as you say worships Shelley. But I do think his request indiscreet that I — who if I wished to write a biographical notice of the sort me would do it — ought

6

entention — but I do not think that I ought to wholly — and I am sure I could not.

I hope your days will indeed wine out in June — We long to see you — will you dine here New years day — & if not on that day the

Morrows Monday 30th Dec. at 4 o'clock

will you forward my note. I thought it

7

best to send it to you that you might see what I say —

Ever yours

M Shelley

one that may suspect the reasons that prevent me & will prevent me if are too so tragical — that I could never bring myself to communicate them to my nearest friend — & to a stranger it is quite out of the question.

I think he alludes to too near a relation — as to making communications of facts to me I am totally averse — one in my own time I should put them in my own light.





As to verifying — This seems easy but it is far from being so — I must thus perhaps give to his management the idea that I disapprove — which is on the contrary a great deal — which may only differ in views — & in as much as it is not a stranger & myself could agree. I feel certain about minor views of Poetry — & if I do not dissent I am said to give my assent



pointing, that I cannot bring myself yet to let flow. and I think a stranger asking me for communications implying verifying his plays an deplorable want of knowledge of the fitness of things — & communicate even the verifying is an act I must decline —

I enclose my answer which I hope you will think as it ought to be. It is a most difficult to deny & affirm an obstacle to a good

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[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]